

11 Captives Released by Cuban Exiles

MIAMI, May 18 (AP)—A militant anti-Castro exile group said today in Miami it had released 11 Cuban fishermen captured last week when two Cuban fishing vessels were sunk.

A spokesman for Alpha 66, which claims it has sent guerrilla raiders into Cuba, said the 11 prisoners were abandoned on the tiny island of William Key in the Bahamas chain to be picked up by the International Red Cross.

Diego Medina, press officer for Alpha 66, said the 11 were being set free by the Alpha 66 military department "for security reasons which could affect future plans of the organization."

Last Thursday, Alpha 66 offered to trade the 11 men to Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro for four prisoners jailed in Cuba. Radio Havana said Castro's reply was a flat refusal.

The release came three days after the U.S. State Department told Cuban exile groups that guerrilla raids on Cuba must be stopped.